ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A congested link identification system is configured to be used in connection with a network for facilitating transfer of message packets among a plurality of information utilization devices. The network comprises a plurality of switching nodes interconnected by a plurality of communication links, at least some of the information utilization devices being configured to transfer message packets thereamong over paths through the network, with each path comprising at least one communication link. The congested link identification system comprises a plurality of congestion detection agents and a congestion link identification processor. Each congestion detection agent is associated with one of the information utilization devices. Each congestion detection agent is configured to generate congested path information indicating whether respective paths used by the information utilization device associated with the respective congestion detection information are congested. The congestion link identification processor is configured to process the congestion detection information generated by the congestion detection agents to identify communication links that are congested.